

Amendments to the 1994 Water Quality Control Plan for the
Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins

Subject	Date Adopted By Reg. Bd.	Regional Board Resolution No.	Date in Effect
1. Amendment Specifically Authorizing Compliance Schedules in NPDES Permits for Achieving Water Quality Objectives or Effluent Limits Based on Objectives	5/26/95	95-142	5/26/95*
2. Adoption of Water Quality Objectives and an Implementation Plan Regulation of Agricultural Subsurface Drainage in the Grassland Area	5/3/96	96-147	1/10/97*
3. Adoption of Site Specific Water Quality Objectives for pH and Turbidity for Deer Creek in El Dorado County	7/19/02	R5-2002-0127	10/21/03
4. Adoption of Corrective Language	9/6/02	R5-2002-0151	1/27/04
5. Adoption of a Control Program for Mercury in Clear Lake, including COMM use for Clear Lake and Mercury Objectives for Fish Tissue	12/6/02	R5-2002-0207	10/2/03
6. Adoption of a Control Program for Orchard Pesticide Runoff and Diazinon Runoff into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers, including Site-Specific Water Quality Objectives for Diazinon	10/16/03	R5-2003-0148	8/11/04
7. Adoption of Site Specific Temperature Objectives for Deer Creek in El Dorado And Sacramento Counties	1/31/03 9/16/05	R5-2003-0006 R5-2005-0119	5/17/06
8. Amendment for the Control of Salt and Boron Discharges into the Lower San Joaquin River	9/10/04	R5-2004-0108	7/28/06
9. Amendment to De-Designate Four Beneficial Uses of Old Alamo Creek, Solano County	4/28/05	R5-2005-0053	8/7/06

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<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date Adopted By Reg. Bd.</u>	<u>Regional Board Resolution No.</u>	<u>Date in Effect</u>
10. Amendment for the Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel	1/27/05	R5-2005-0005	8/23/06

- * The amendment is not in effect until it is approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and Office of Administrative Law. If the amendment involves adopting or revising a standard which relates to surface waters it must also be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) [40 CFR Section 131(c)]. If the standard revision is disapproved by USEPA, the revised standard remains in effect until it is revised by the basin planning process, or USEPA promulgates its own rule which supersedes the standard revision [40 CFR Section 131.21(c)]

**THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN (BASIN PLAN)
FOR THE
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

**FOURTH EDITION
Revised August 2006 (with Approved Amendments)**

**THE SACRAMENTO RIVER BASIN AND
THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN**



**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

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BASIN DESCRIPTION

This Basin Plan covers the entire area included in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River drainage basins (see maps in pocket* and Figure II-1). The basins are bound by the crests of the Sierra Nevada on the east and the Coast Range and Klamath Mountains on the west. They extend some 400 miles from the California - Oregon border southward to the headwaters of the San Joaquin River.

*NOTE: The planning boundary between the San Joaquin River Basin and the Tulare Lake Basin follows the southern watershed boundaries of the Little Panoche Creek, Moreno Gulch, and Capita Canyon to boundary of the Westlands Water District. From here, the boundary follows the northern edge of the Westlands Water District until its intersection with the Firebaugh Canal Company's Main Lift Canal. The basin boundary then follows the Main Lift Canal to the Mendota Pool and continues eastward along the channel of the San Joaquin River to Millerton Lake in the Sierra Nevada foothills, and then follows along the southern boundary of the San Joaquin River drainage basin.

The Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins cover about one fourth of the total area of the State and over 30% of the State's irrigable land. The Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers furnish roughly 51% of the State's water supply. Surface water from the two drainage basins meet and form the Delta, which ultimately drains to San Francisco Bay. Two major water projects, the Federal Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, deliver water from the Delta to Southern California, the San Joaquin Valley, Tulare Lake Basin, the San Francisco Bay area, as well as within the Delta boundaries.

The Delta is a maze of river channels and diked islands covering roughly 1,150 square miles, including 78 square miles of water area. The legal boundary of the Delta is described in Section 12220 of the Water Code (also see Figure III-1 of this Basin Plan).

Ground water is defined as subsurface water that occurs beneath the ground surface in fully saturated zones within soils and other geologic formations. Where ground water occurs in a saturated geologic unit that contains sufficient permeability and thickness to yield significant quantities of water to wells or springs, it can be defined as an aquifer (USGS, Water Supply Paper 1988, 1972). A ground

water basin is defined as a hydrogeologic unit containing one large aquifer or several connected and interrelated aquifers (Todd, *Groundwater Hydrology*, 1980).

Major ground water basins underlie both valley floors, and there are scattered smaller basins in the foothill areas and mountain valleys. In many parts of the Region, usable ground waters occur outside of these currently identified basins. There are water-bearing geologic units within ground water basins in the Region that do not meet the definition of an aquifer. Therefore, for basin planning and regulatory purposes, the term "ground water" includes all subsurface waters that occur in fully saturated zones and fractures within soils and other geologic formations, whether or not these waters meet the definition of an aquifer or occur within identified ground water basins.

Sacramento River Basin

The Sacramento River Basin covers 27,210 square miles and includes the entire area drained by the Sacramento River. For planning purposes, this includes all watersheds tributary to the Sacramento River that are north of the Cosumnes River watershed. It also includes the closed basin of Goose Lake and drainage sub-basins of Cache and Putah Creeks.

The principal streams are the Sacramento River and its larger tributaries: the Pit, Feather, Yuba, Bear, and American Rivers to the east; and Cottonwood, Stony, Cache, and Putah Creeks to the west. Major reservoirs and lakes include Shasta, Oroville, Folsom, Clear Lake, and Lake Berryessa.

DWR Bulletin 118-80 identifies 63 ground water basins in the Sacramento watershed area. The Sacramento Valley floor is divided into 2 ground water basins. Other basins are in the foothills or mountain valleys. There are areas other than those identified in the DWR Bulletin with ground waters that have beneficial uses.

San Joaquin River Basin

The San Joaquin River Basin covers 15,880 square miles and includes the entire area drained by the San Joaquin River. It includes all watersheds tributary to

the San Joaquin River and the Delta south of the Sacramento River and south of the American River watershed. The southern planning boundary is described in the first paragraph of the previous page.

The principal streams in the basin are the San Joaquin River and its larger tributaries: the Cosumnes, Mokelumne, Calaveras, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Merced, Chowchilla, and Fresno Rivers. Major reservoirs and lakes include Pardee, New Hogan, Millerton, McClure, Don Pedro, and New Melones.

DWR Bulletin 118-80 identifies 39 ground water basins in the San Joaquin watershed area. The San Joaquin Valley floor is divided into 15 separate ground water basins, largely based on political considerations. Other basins are in the foothills or mountain valleys. There are areas other than those identified in the DWR Bulletin with ground waters that have beneficial uses.

Grassland Watershed

The Grassland watershed is a valley floor sub-basin of the San Joaquin River Basin. The portion of the watershed for which agricultural subsurface drainage policies and regulations apply covers an area of approximately 370,000 acres and is bounded on the north by the alluvial fan of Orestimba Creek and by the Tulare Lake Basin to the south. The San Joaquin River forms the eastern boundary and Interstate Highway 5 forms the approximate western boundary. The San Joaquin River forms a wide flood plain in the region of the Grassland watershed.

The hydrology of the watershed has been irreversibly altered due to water projects and is presently governed by land uses. These uses are primarily, managed wetlands and agriculture. The wetlands form important waterfowl habitat for migratory waterfowl using the Pacific Flyway. The alluvial fans of the western and southern portions of the watershed contain salts and selenium which can be mobilized through irrigation practices and can impact beneficial uses of surface waters and wetlands if not properly regulated.

Lower San Joaquin River Watershed and Subareas

Technical descriptions of the Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR) and its component subareas are contained in Appendix 41. General descriptions follow: The LSJR watershed encompasses approximately 4,580 square miles in Merced County and portions of Fresno, Madera, San Joaquin, and

Stanislaus counties. For planning purposes, the LSJR watershed is defined as the area draining to the San Joaquin River downstream of the Mendota Dam and upstream of the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis, excluding the areas upstream of dams on the major Eastside reservoirs: New Don Pedro, New Melones, Lake McClure, and similar Eastside reservoirs in the LSJR system. The LSJR watershed excludes all lands within Calaveras, Tuolumne, San Benito, and Mariposa Counties. The LSJR watershed has been subdivided into seven major sub areas. In some cases major subareas have been further subdivided into minor subareas to facilitate more effective and focused water quality planning (Table I-1).

Table I-1 Lower San Joaquin River Subareas

Major Subareas		Minor Subareas	
1	LSJR upstream of Salt Slough	1a	Bear Creek
		1b	Fresno-Chowchilla
2	Grassland	-- --	
3	East Valley Floor	3a	Northeast Bank
		3b	North Stanislaus
		3c	Stevinson
		3d	Turlock Area
4	Northwest Side	4a	Greater Orestimba
		4b	Westside Creeks
		4c	Vernalis North
5	Merced River	-- --	
6	Tuolumne River	-- --	
7	Stanislaus River	-- --	

1. Lower San Joaquin River upstream of Salt Slough

This subarea drains approximately 1,480 square miles on the east side of the LSJR upstream of the Salt Slough confluence. The subarea includes the portions of the Bear Creek, Chowchilla River and Fresno River watersheds that are contained within Merced and Madera Counties. The northern boundary of the subarea generally abuts the Merced River Watershed. The western and southern boundaries follow the San Joaquin River from the Lander Avenue Bridge to Friant, except for the lands within the Columbia Canal Company, which are excluded. Columbia Canal Company lands are included in the Grassland Subarea. This subarea is composed of the following drainage areas:

1a. Bear Creek (effective drainage area)

This minor subarea is a 620 square mile subset of lands within the LSJR upstream of Salt Slough Subarea. The Bear Creek Minor Subarea is predominantly comprised of the portion of the Bear Creek Watershed that is contained within Merced County.

1b. Fresno-Chowchilla

The Fresno-Chowchilla Minor Subarea is comprised of approximately 860 square miles of land within the southern portion of the LSJR upstream of Salt Slough Subarea. This minor subarea is located in southeastern Merced County and western Madera County and contains the land area that drains into the LSJR between Sack Dam and the Bear Creek confluence, including the drainages of the Fresno and Chowchilla Rivers.

2. Grassland

The Grassland Subarea drains approximately 1,370 square miles on the west side of the LSJR in portions of Merced, Stanislaus, and Fresno Counties. This subarea includes the Mud Slough, Salt Slough, and Los Banos Creek watersheds. The eastern boundary of this subarea is generally formed by the LSJR between the Merced River confluence and the Mendota Dam. The Grassland Subarea extends across the LSJR, into the east side of the San Joaquin Valley, to include the lands within the Columbia Canal Company. The western boundary of the subarea generally follows the crest of the Coast Range with the exception of lands within San Benito County, which are excluded.

3. East Valley Floor

This subarea includes approximately 413 square miles of land on the east side of the LSJR that drains directly to the LSJR between the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis and the Salt Slough confluence. The subarea is largely comprised of the land between the major east-side drainages of the Tuolumne, Stanislaus, and Merced Rivers. This subarea lies within central Stanislaus County and north-central Merced County. Numerous drainage canals, including the Harding Drain and natural drainages, drain this subarea. The subarea is comprised of the following minor subareas:

3a. Northeast Bank

This minor subarea of the East Valley Floor contains all of the land draining the east side of the San Joaquin River between the Maze Boulevard Bridge and the Crows Landing Road Bridge, except for the Tuolumne River subarea. The Northeast Bank covers approximately 123 square miles in central Stanislaus County.

3b. North Stanislaus

The North Stanislaus minor subarea is a subset of lands within the East Valley Floor Subarea. This minor subarea drains approximately 68 square miles of land between the Stanislaus and Tuolumne River watersheds that flows into the San Joaquin River between the Airport Way

Bridge near Vernalis and the Maze Boulevard Bridge.

3c. Stevinson

This minor subarea of the East Valley Floor contains all of the land draining to the LSJR between the Merced River confluence and the Lander Avenue (Highway 165) Bridge. The Stevinson Minor Subarea occupies approximately 44 square miles in north-central Merced County.

3d. Turlock Area

This minor subarea of the East Valley Floor contains all of the land draining to the LSJR between the Crows Landing Road Bridge and the Merced River confluence. The Turlock Area Minor Subarea occupies approximately 178 square miles in south-central Stanislaus County and northern Merced County.

4. Northwest Side

This 574 square mile area generally includes the lands on the West side of the LSJR between the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis and the Newman Waste way confluence. This subarea includes the entire drainage area of Orestimba, Del Puerto, and Hospital/Ingram Creeks. The subarea is primarily located in Western Stanislaus County except for a small area that extends into Merced County near the town of Newman and the Central California Irrigation District Main Canal.

4a. Greater Orestimba

The Greater Orestimba Minor Subarea is a 285 square mile subset of the Northwest Side Subarea located in southwest Stanislaus County and a small portion of western Merced County. It contains the entire Orestimba Creek watershed and the remaining area that drains into the LSJR from the west between the Crows Landing Road Bridge and the confluence of the Merced River, including Little Salad and Crow Creeks.

4b. Westside Creeks

This Minor Subarea is comprised of 277 square miles of the Northwest Side Subarea in western Stanislaus County. It consists of the areas that drain into the west side of the San Joaquin River between Maze Boulevard and Crows Landing Road, including the drainages of Del Puerto, Hospital, and Ingram Creeks.

4c. Vernalis North

The Vernalis North Minor Subarea is a 12 square mile subset of land within the most northern portion of the Northwest Side Subarea. It contains the land draining to the San Joaquin River from the west between the Maze

Boulevard Bridge and the Airport Way Bridge
near Vernalis.

5. Merced River

This 294 square mile subarea is comprised of the Merced River watershed downstream of the Merced-Mariposa county line and upstream of the River Road Bridge. The Merced River subarea includes a 13-square-mile “island” of land (located between the East Valley Floor and the Tuolumne River Subareas) that is hydrologically connected to the Merced River by the Highline Canal.

6. Tuolumne River

This 294 square mile subarea is comprised of the Tuolumne River watershed downstream of the Stanislaus-Tuolumne county line, including the drainage of Turlock Lake, and upstream of the Shiloh Road Bridge.

7. Stanislaus River

This 157 square mile subarea is comprised of the Stanislaus River watershed downstream of the Stanislaus-Calaveras county line and upstream of Caswell State Park.

or aesthetic enjoyment in conjunction with the above activities.

Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM) - Uses of water for commercial or recreational collection of fish, shellfish, or other organisms including, but not limited to, uses involving organisms intended for human consumption or bait purposes.

Aquaculture (AQUA) - Uses of water for aquaculture or mariculture operations including, but not limited to, propagation, cultivation, maintenance, or harvesting of aquatic plants and animals for human consumption or bait purposes.

Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM) - Uses of water that support warm water ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates.

Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD) - Uses of water that support cold water ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates.

Estuarine Habitat (EST) - Uses of water that support estuarine ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of estuarine habitats, vegetation, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g., estuarine mammals, waterfowl, shorebirds).

Wildlife Habitat (WILD) - Uses of water that support terrestrial or wetland ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation and enhancement of terrestrial habitats or wetlands, vegetation, wildlife (e.g., mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates), or wildlife water and food sources.

Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL) - Uses of water that support designated areas or habitats, such as established refuges, parks, sanctuaries, ecological reserves, or Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), where the preservation or enhancement of natural resources requires special protection.

Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE) - Uses of water that support aquatic habitats necessary, at least in part, for the survival and successful maintenance of plant or animal species established under state or federal law as rare, threatened or endangered.

Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR) - Uses of water that support habitats necessary for migration or other temporary activities by aquatic organisms, such as anadromous fish.

Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN) - Uses of water that support high quality aquatic habitats suitable for reproduction and early development of fish.

Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL) - Uses of water that support habitats suitable for the collection of filter-feeding shellfish (e.g., clams, oysters, and mussels) for human consumption, commercial, or sports purposes.

Surface Waters

Existing and potential beneficial uses which currently apply to surface waters of the basins are presented in Figure II-1 and Table II-1. The beneficial uses of any specifically identified water body generally apply to its tributary streams, except as provided below:

- MUN, COLD, MIGR and SPWN do not apply to Old Alamo Creek (Solano County) from its headwaters to the confluence with New Alamo Creek

In some cases a beneficial use may not be applicable to the entire body of water. In these cases the Regional Water Board's judgment will be applied.

It should be noted that it is impractical to list every surface water body in the Region. For unidentified water bodies, the beneficial uses will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Water Bodies within the basins that do not have beneficial uses designated in Table II-1 are assigned MUN designations in accordance with the provisions of State Water Board Resolution No. 88-63 which is, by reference, a part of this Basin Plan, except as provided below:

- Old Alamo Creek (Solano County) from its headwaters to the confluence with New Alamo Creek

These MUN designations in no way affect the presence or absence of other beneficial use designations in these water bodies.

In making any exemptions to the beneficial use designation of MUN, the Regional Board will apply the exceptions listed in Resolution 88-63 (Appendix Item 8).

Ground Waters

Beneficial uses of ground waters of the basins are presented below. For the purposes of assigning beneficial uses, the term ground water is defined in Chapter I.

Temperature

The natural receiving water temperature of intrastate waters shall not be altered unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Regional Water Board that such alteration in temperature does not adversely affect beneficial uses.

Temperature objectives for COLD interstate waters, WARM interstate waters, and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries are as specified in the *Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays of California* including any revisions. There are also temperature objectives for the Delta in the State

Water Board's May 1991 *Water Quality Control Plan for Salinity*.

At no time or place shall the temperature of COLD or WARM intrastate waters be increased more than 5°F above natural receiving water temperature.

Temperature changes due to controllable factors shall be limited for the water bodies specified as described in Table III-4. To the extent of any conflict with the above, the more stringent objective applies.

In determining compliance with the water quality objectives for temperature, appropriate averaging periods may be applied provided that beneficial uses will be fully protected.

TABLE III-4
SPECIFIC TEMPERATURE OBJECTIVES

DATES

From 1 December to 15 March, the maximum temperature shall be 55°F.

From 16 March to 15 April, the maximum temperature shall be 60°F.

From 16 April to 15 May, the maximum temperature shall be 65°F.

From 16 May to 15 October, the maximum temperature shall be 70°F.

From 16 October to 15 November, the maximum temperature shall be 65°F.

From 16 November to 30 November, the maximum temperature shall be 60°F.

The temperature in the epilimnion shall be less than or equal to 75°F or mean daily ambient air temperature, whichever is greater.

The temperature shall not be elevated above 56°F in the reach from Keswick Dam to Hamilton City nor above 68°F in the reach from Hamilton City to the I Street Bridge during periods when temperature increases will be detrimental to the fishery.

APPLICABLE WATER BODY

Sacramento River from its source to Box Canyon Reservoir (9); Sacramento River from Box Canyon Dam to Shasta Lake (11)

Lake Siskiyou (10)

Sacramento River from Shasta Dam to I Street Bridge (13, 30)

The following site-specific objective replaces the general temperature objective, above, in its entirety for the listed water body:

For Deer Creek, source to Cosumnes River, temperature changes due to controllable factors shall not cause creek temperatures to exceed the objectives specified in Table III-4A.

TABLE III-4A
DEER CREEK TEMPERATURE OBJECTIVES

Date	Daily Maximum (°F) ^a	Monthly Average (°F) ^b
January and February	63	58
March	65	60
April	71	64
May	77	68
June	81	74
July through Sept.	81	77
October	77	72
November	73	65
December	65	58

a Maximum not to be exceeded.

b Defined as a calendar month average.

Toxicity

All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. This objective applies regardless of whether the toxicity is caused by a single substance or the interactive effect of multiple substances. Compliance with this objective will be determined by analyses of indicator organisms, species diversity, population density, growth anomalies, and biotoxicity tests of appropriate duration or other methods as specified by the Regional Water Board.

The Regional Water Board will also consider all material and relevant information submitted by the discharger and other interested parties and numerical criteria and guidelines for toxic substances developed by the State Water Board, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the California Department of Health Services, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate

11. *State Water Board Resolution No. 93-62, Policy for Regulation of Discharges of Municipal Solid Waste*

The policy for water quality control, adopted by State Water Board on 17 June 1993, directs Regional Water Boards to amend waste discharge requirements for municipal solid waste landfills to incorporate pertinent provisions of the federal "Subtitle D" regulations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (40 CFR Parts 257 & 258). The majority of the provisions of the Subtitle D regulations become effective on 9 October 1993. Landfills which are subject to the Subtitle D regulations and the Policy are those which have accepted municipal solid waste on or after 9 October 1991. See Appendix Item 10.

12. *The Thermal Plan*

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California was adopted by the State Water Board on 18 May 1972 and amended 18 September 1975. The plan specifies water quality objectives, effluent quality limits, and discharge prohibitions related to thermal characteristics of interstate waters and waste discharges. See Appendix Item 11. (Note: the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 92-82 on 22 October 1992, approving an exception to the Thermal Plan for Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District. See Appendix Item 12.)

13. *The Delta Plan, Water Right Decision 1485, and the Water Quality Control Plan for Salinity*

In August 1978, the State Water Board adopted the Delta Plan and Water Right Decision 1485 (D-1485). The Delta Plan contained water quality standards, Delta outflow requirements and export constraints for the Delta. These standards, requirements, and constraints were then implemented in D-1485 by making them conditions of the water right permits for the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project.

When the Delta Plan and accompanying D-1485 were originally issued, the State Water Board committed itself to review the Delta Plan in about ten years. In 1986, the State Court of Appeal issued a decision addressing legal challenges to the Delta Plan and D-1485. The

Court directed the State Water Board to take a global view toward its dual responsibilities (water quality and water rights) to the State's water resources.

In response to the Court's decision, the State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Salinity in May 1991. The Delta salinity, temperature, and dissolved oxygen standards contained in the plan are identified in Table III-5 of Chapter III.

In December 1999 the State Water Board adopted, and in March 2000 per Order WR 2000-02 revised, Water Right Decisions 1641. This decision amended certain water rights by assigning responsibilities to water right holders to help meet flow objectives intended to implement certain water quality objectives contained in the 1995 Bay-Delta Plan.

Rather than taking any water right action to meet the dissolved oxygen objectives in the 1995 Bay-Delta Plan, the State Water Board directed the Regional Water Board to first prepare a TMDL to achieve the dissolved oxygen objectives and implement it.

14. *Nonpoint Source Management Plan*

In 1988, the State Water Board adopted (Resolution 88-123) a Nonpoint Source Management Plan. The Plan describes three general management approaches that are to be used to address nonpoint source problems. These are 1) voluntary implementation of best management practices, 2) regulatory based encouragement of best management practices and 3) adopted effluent limits.

The approaches are listed in order of increasing stringency. In general the least stringent option that successfully protects or restores water quality should be employed, with more stringent measures considered if timely improvements in beneficial use protection are not achieved. The Regional Water Board will determine which approach or combination of approaches is most appropriate for any given nonpoint source problem.

15. *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California” (a.k.a. State Implementation Plan or SIP)*

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In March 2000, the State Water Board adopted the SIP in Resolution No. 2000-015. This Policy establishes:

- (1) Implementation provisions for priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) through the National Toxics Rule (40 CFR 131.36) (promulgated on 22 December 1992 and amended on 4 May 1995) and through the California Toxics Rule (40 CFR 131.38) (promulgated on 18 May 2000 and amended on 13 February 2001), and for priority pollutant objectives established by Regional Water Boards in their basin plans; and
- (2) Monitoring requirements for 2,3,7,8-TCDD equivalents; and
- (3) Chronic toxicity control provisions.

In addition, this Policy includes special provisions for certain types of discharges and factors that could affect the application of other provisions in this Policy.

Programs

1. *Discharges of Hazardous Waste to Land, California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 15 and Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing or Disposal of Solid Waste, California Code of Regulations Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision*

Title 23, CCR, Division 3 Chapter 15 and Title 27 CCR, Division 2, Subdivision 1 includes regulations governing discharges of hazardous and solid waste to land for treatment, storage, or disposal. The regulations cover landfills, surface impoundments, waste piles, land treatment units, mining waste management units and confined animal facilities. In addition, actions to clean up and abate conditions of pollution or nuisance at contaminated sites are covered by relevant portions of the regulations where contaminated materials are taken off-site for treatment, storage, or disposal and, as feasible, where wastes are contained or remain on-site at the completion of cleanup actions. The regulations classify wastes according to their threat to water quality, classify waste management units according to the degree of

- b. The discharge of agricultural subsurface drainage water to Salt Slough and wetland water supply channels identified in Appendix 40 is prohibited after 10 January 1997, unless water quality objectives for selenium are being met. This prohibition may be reconsidered if public or private interests prevent the implementation of a separate conveyance facility for agricultural subsurface drainage.
- c. The discharge of agricultural subsurface drainage water to Mud Slough (north) and the San Joaquin River from Sack Dam to the mouth of the Merced River is prohibited after 1 October 2010, unless water quality objectives for selenium are being met. This prohibition may be reconsidered if public or private interests prevent the implementation of a separate conveyance facility for agricultural subsurface drainage to the San Joaquin River.
- d. The discharge of selenium from agricultural subsurface drainage systems in the Grassland watershed to the San Joaquin River is prohibited in amounts exceeding 8,000 lbs/year for all water year types beginning 10 January 1997.
- e. Activities that increase the discharge of poor quality agricultural subsurface drainage are prohibited.

7. *Diazinon Discharges into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers*

Beginning July 1, 2008, (i) the direct or indirect discharge of diazinon into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers is prohibited if, in the previous year (July-June), any exceedance of the diazinon water quality objectives occurred, and (ii) the direct or indirect discharge of diazinon into any sub-watershed (identified in Table IV-7) is prohibited if, in the previous year (July-June), the load allocation was not met in that sub-watershed. Prohibition (i) applies only to diazinon discharges that are tributary to or upstream from the location where the water quality objective was exceeded.

These prohibitions do not apply if the discharge of diazinon is subject to a waiver of waste discharge requirements implementing the water quality objectives and load allocations for diazinon for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers, or governed by individual or general waste discharge requirements.

8. *Dissolved Oxygen in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel(DWSC)*

The discharge of oxygen demanding substances or their precursors into waters tributary to the DWSC portion of the San Joaquin River is prohibited after 31 December 2011 when net daily flow in the DWSC portion of the San Joaquin River in the vicinity of Stockton is less than 3,000 cubic feet per second, unless dissolved oxygen objectives in the DWSC are being met.

Any increase in the discharge of oxygen demanding substances or their precursors into waters tributary to the DWSC portion of the San Joaquin River is prohibited after 23 August 2006.

These prohibitions do not apply if the discharge is regulated by a waiver of waste discharge requirements, or individual or general waste discharge requirements or NPDES permits, which implement the *Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel* or which include a finding that the discharge will have no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a negative impact on the dissolved oxygen impairment in the DWSC. These prohibitions will be reconsidered by the Regional Water Board by December 2009 based on:

- a) the results of the oxygen demand and precursor studies required in the *Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel*
- b) the prevailing dissolved oxygen conditions in the DWSC

Regional Water Board Guidelines

The Regional Water Board has adopted guidance for certain types of dischargers which is designed to reduce the possibility that water quality will be impaired. The Regional Water Board may still impose discharge requirements. All of the Guidelines are contained in the Appendix (Items 33 through 37). Currently, the following Guidelines apply to the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins:

1. *Wineries*

This Guideline contains criteria for protecting beneficial uses and preventing nuisance from the disposal to land of stillage wastes.

2. *Erosion and Sedimentation*

This Guideline identifies practices to be implemented by local government to reduce erosion and sedimentation from construction activities.

3. *Small Hydroelectric Facilities*

This Guideline specifies measures to protect water quality from temperature, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen effects from the construction and operation of small hydroelectric Facilities.

4. *Disposal from Land Developments*

This Guideline contains criteria for the siting of septic tanks, sewer lines, leach fields, and seepage pits to protect water quality.

5. *Mining*

This Guideline identifies actions that the Regional Water Board takes to address the water

quality problems associated with mining. It requires owners and operators of active mines to prepare plans for closure and reclamation, but it does not specify any practices or criteria for mine operators.

Nonpoint Source Action Plans

Section 208 of the 1972 Amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act resulted in monies being made available to states to address nonpoint source problems. The Regional Water Board used 208 grant funds to develop its mining and erosion/sedimentation guidelines, among other things. It also encouraged local governments to make use of the 208 program. As a result, several counties in the sub-basins developed action plans to control nonpoint source problems which affected them. The Regional Water Board action plans are described in Table IV-2

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efficiency of municipal, industrial, and agricultural water use.

2. Make optimum use of existing water resource facilities.
3. Store what would otherwise be surplus wet-weather Delta outflows in off-stream reservoirs.
4. Conjunctively use surface and ground waters.
5. Give careful consideration to the impact on basin water quality of inland siting of power plants.
6. Make maximum use of reclaimed water while protecting public health and avoiding severe economic penalties to a particular user or class of users.

Trans-Delta Water Conveyance

The State Water Board should adopt the position that those proposing trans-Delta water conveyance facilities must clearly demonstrate the following, if such a facility is constructed:

1. Protection of all beneficial uses in the Delta that may be affected by such a facility;
2. Protection of all established water quality objectives that may be affected by such a facility; and,
3. Adherence to the six alternatives previously identified for Interbasin Transfer of Water.

Water Quality Planning

A core planning group has been established within the staff of the State Water Board, which has the responsibility to integrate the statewide planning of water quality and water resources management.

Water Intake Studies

The State Water Board should coordinate studies to assess the costs and benefits of moving planned diversions from the eastern side of the Central Valley to points further west, probably to the Delta, to allow east side waters to flow downstream for uses of fishery enhancement, recreation, and quality control. Specific study items should include:

1. Possible intake relocations;
2. Conveyance and treatment required to accommodate such relocations;

3. Direct and indirect (including consumer and environmental) costs and benefits of relocation; and,
4. Institutional problems.

The State Water Board should request voluntary participation in the studies by agencies planning diversions, but should take appropriate action through its water rights authority if such participation cannot be obtained. At a minimum, participation would be required of the San Francisco Water Department and East Bay Municipal Utility District.

Subsurface Agricultural Drainage

1. The Regional Board will request that the State Water Board use its water rights authority to preclude the supplying of water to specific lands, if water quality objectives are not met by the specified compliance dates and Regional Board administrative remedies fail to achieve compliance.
2. The State Water Board should work jointly with the Regional Water Board in securing compliance with the 2 µg/l selenium objective for managed- wetlands in the Grassland area.
3. The State Water Board should also consider grant funds to implement a cost share program to install a number of flow monitoring stations within the Grassland area to assist in better defining the movement of pollutants through the area.
4. The State Water Board should continue to consider the Drainage Problem Area in the San Joaquin Basin and the upper Panoche watershed (in the Tulare Basin) as priority nonpoint source problems in order to make USEPA nonpoint source control funding available to the area.
5. The State Water Board should seek funding for research and demonstration of advanced technology that will be needed to achieve final selenium loads necessary to meet selenium water quality objectives.

Salt and Boron in the Lower San Joaquin River

1. The State Water Board should consider the continued use of its water rights authority to prohibit water transfers if the transfer contributes to low flows and related salinity water quality impairment in the Lower San Joaquin River.

2. The State Water Board should consider the continued conditioning of water rights on the attainment of existing and new water quality objectives for salinity in the Lower San Joaquin River, when these objectives cannot be met through discharge controls alone.

Dissolved Oxygen in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC)

1. The State Water Board should consider amending water right permits for existing activities that reduce flow through the DWSC to require that the associated impacts on excess net oxygen demand conditions in the DWSC be evaluated and their impacts reduced in accordance with the *Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the DWSC*.
2. The State Water Board should consider requiring evaluation and full mitigation of the potential impacts of future water right permits or water transfer applications on reduced flow and excess net oxygen demand conditions in the DWSC.

Recommended for Implementation by Other Agencies

Water Resources Facilities

1. Consideration should be given to the construction of a storage facility to store surplus wet-weather Delta outflows. Construction should be contingent on studies demonstrating that some portion of wet-weather Delta outflow is truly surplus to the Bay-Delta system.
2. Consideration should be given to the use of excess capacity in west San Joaquin Valley conveyances, or of using a new east valley conveyance to:
 - a. Augment flows and improve water quality in the San Joaquin River and southern Delta with the goal of achieving water quality as described in Table IV-3.

TABLE IV-3

<u>TDS MG/L</u>	<u>TYPE PF YEAR¹</u>			
	<u>CRITICAL²</u>	<u>DRY³</u>	<u>NORMA⁴</u>	<u>WET⁴</u>
Max. 3-day (arith. avg.)	500	500	500	500
Maximum (annual avg.)	385	385	385	285
Max. May-Sep (arith. avg.)	300	250	250	250
Max. 3-Day May-Sep (arith Avg.)	450	350	350	350

- 1 Relative to unimpaired runoff to Delta Based on 1922 - 1971 period. See definitions in Figure III-2
- 2 Less than 57% , or less than 70% when preceding year critical
- 3 Less than 70%, or less than 90% when preceding year critical
- 4 Greater than 125%

- b. Prevent further ground water overdrafts and associated quality problems.
3. Agencies responsible for existing water resources facilities that reduce flow through the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC) should evaluate and reduce their impacts on excess net oxygen demand conditions in the DWSC in accordance with the *Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the DWSC*.
 4. Agencies responsible for future water resources facilities projects, which potentially reduce flow through the DWSC, should evaluate and fully mitigate the potential negative impacts on excess net oxygen demand conditions in the DWSC.

Agricultural Drainage Facilities

Facilities should be constructed to convey agricultural drain water from the San Joaquin and Tulare Basins. It is the policy of the Regional Water Board to encourage construction. The discharge must comply with water quality objectives of the receiving water body.

Subsurface Agricultural Drainage

1. The entire drainage issue is being handled as a watershed management issue. The entities in the Drainage Problem Area and entities within the remainder of the Grassland watershed need to

establish a regional entity with authority and responsibility for drain water management.

2. The regional drainage entity and agricultural water districts should consider adopting economic incentive programs as a component of their plans to reduce pollutant loads. Economic incentives can be an effective institutional means of promoting on-farm changes in drainage and water management.
3. If fragmentation of the parties that generate, handle and discharge agricultural subsurface drainage jeopardizes the achievement of water quality objectives, the Regional Water Board will consider petitioning the Legislature for the formation of a regional drainage district.
4. The Legislature should consider putting additional bond issues before the voters to provide low interest loans for agricultural water conservation and water quality projects and incorporating provisions that would allow recipients to be private landowners, and that would allow irrigation efficiency improvement projects that reduce drainage discharges to be eligible for both water conservation funds and water quality facilities funds.
5. The San Joaquin Valley Drainage Implementation Program or other appropriate agencies should continue to investigate the alternative of a San Joaquin River Basin drain to move the existing discharge point for poor quality agricultural subsurface drainage to a location where its impact on water quality is less.
6. The selenium water quality objective for the wetland channels can not be achieved without removal of drainage water from these channels. The present use of the Grassland channels has developed over a 30-year period through agreements between the dischargers, water and irrigation districts, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the California Department of Water Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Grassland Water District and the Grassland Resource Conservation District. Because each entity shared in the development of the present drainage routing system, each shares the responsibility for implementation of a wetlands bypass.

Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC)

1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should reduce the impacts of the existing DWSC geometry on

excess net oxygen demand conditions in accordance with the *Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the DWSC*.

CONTINUOUS PLANNING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL

In order to effectively protect beneficial uses, the Regional Water Board updates the Basin Plan regularly in response to changing water quality conditions. The Regional Water Board is periodically apprised of water quality problems in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins, but the major review of water quality is done every three years as part of the Triennial Review of water quality standards.

During the triennial review, the Regional Water Board holds a public hearing to receive comments on actual and potential water quality problems. A workplan is prepared which identifies the control actions that will be implemented over the succeeding three years to address the problems. The actions may include or result in revision of the Basin Plan's water quality standards if that is an appropriate problem remedy. Until such time that a basin plan is revised, the triennial review also serves to reaffirm existing standards.

The control actions that are identified through the triennial review process are incorporated into the Basin Plan to meet requirements to describe actions (to achieve objectives) and a time schedule of their implementation as called for in the Water Code, Section 13242(a) and (b). The actions recommended in the most recent triennial review are described in the following section.

ACTIONS AND SCHEDULE TO ACHIEVE WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

The Regional Water Board expects to implement the actions identified below over the fiscal year (FY) period 1993/1994 through 1995/1996. The problems to which the actions respond were identified as a result of the Regional Water Board's 1993 Triennial Review. The actions and schedules assume that the Regional Water Board has available a close approximation of the mix and level of resources it had in FY 1993/1994. The actions are identified by major water quality problem categories.

Agricultural Drainage Discharges in the San Joaquin River Basin

Water quality in the San Joaquin River has degraded significantly since the late 1940s. During this period, salt concentrations in the River, near Vernalis, have doubled. Concentrations of boron, selenium, molybdenum and other trace elements have also increased. These increases are primarily due to reservoir development on the east side tributaries and upper basin for agricultural development, the use of poorer quality, higher salinity, Delta water in lieu of San Joaquin River water on west side agricultural lands and drainage from upslope saline soils on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. Point source discharges to surface waters only contribute a small fraction of the total salt and boron loads in the San Joaquin River.

The water quality degradation in the River was identified in the 1975 Basin Plan and the Lower San Joaquin River was classified as a Water Quality Limited Segment. At that time, it was envisioned that a Valley-wide Drain would be developed and these subsurface drainage water flows would then be discharged outside the Basin, thus improving River water quality. However, present day development is looking more toward a regional solution to the drainage water discharge problem rather than a valley-wide drain.

Because of the need to manage salt and other pollutants in the River, the Regional Water Board began developing a Regional Drainage Water Disposal Plan for the Basin. The development began in FY 87/88 when Basin Plan amendments were considered by the Water Board in FY 88/89. The amendment development process included review of beneficial uses, establishment of water quality objectives, and preparation of a regulatory plan, including a full implementation plan. The regulatory plan emphasized achieving objectives through reductions in drainage volumes and pollutant loads through best management practices and other on-farm methods.

The 88/89 amendment emphasized toxic elements in subsurface drainage discharges. The Regional Water Board however still recognizes salt management as the most serious long-term issue on the San Joaquin River. Salinity impairment in the Lower San Joaquin River remains a persistent problem as salinity water quality objectives continue to be exceeded. The Regional Water Board adopted the following control program for salt and boron in the Lower San Joaquin

River to address salt and boron impairment and to bring the river into compliance with water quality objectives. Additionally, the Regional Water Board will continue as an active participant in the San Joaquin River Management Program implementation phase, as

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8. Selenium effluent limits established in waste discharge requirements will be applied to the discharge of subsurface drainage water from the Grassland watershed. In the absence of a regional entity to coordinate actions on the discharge, the Regional Board will consider setting the effluent limits at each drainage water source (discharger) to ensure that beneficial uses are protected at all points downstream.
9. Upslope irrigations and water facility operators whose actions contribute to subsurface drainage flows will participate in the program to control discharges.
10. Public and private managed-wetlands will participate in the program to achieve water quality objectives.
11. Achieving reductions in the load of selenium discharged is highly dependent upon the effectiveness of individual actions or technology not currently available; therefore, the Regional Board will review the waste discharge requirements and compliance schedule at least every 5 years.
12. All those discharging or contributing to the generation of agricultural subsurface drainage will be required to submit for approval a short-term (5-year) drainage management plan designed to meet interim milestones and a long-term drainage management plan designed to meet final water quality objectives.
13. An annual review of the effectiveness of control actions taken will be conducted by those contributing to the generation of agricultural subsurface drainage.
14. Evaporation basins in the San Joaquin Basin will be required to meet minimum design standards, have waste discharge requirements and be part of a regional plan to control agricultural subsurface drainage.
15. The Regional Board staff will coordinate with US EPA and the dischargers on a study plan to support the development of a site specific selenium water quality objective for the San Joaquin River and other effluent dominated waterbodies in the Grassland watershed.
16. The Regional Board will establish water quality objectives for salinity for the San Joaquin River.

Control program for Salt and Boron Discharges into the Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR)

The goal of the salt and boron control program is to achieve compliance with salt and boron water quality objectives without restricting the ability of dischargers to export salt out of the San Joaquin River basin.

For the purpose of this control program, nonpoint source land uses include all irrigated lands and nonpoint source discharges are discharges from irrigated lands.

Irrigated lands are lands where water is applied for producing crops and, for the purpose of this control program, includes, but is not limited to, land planted to row, field and tree crops as well as commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, managed wetlands, and rice production.

This control program is phased to allow for implementation of existing water quality objectives, while providing the framework and timeline for implementing future water quality objectives.

The salt and boron control program establishes salt load limits to achieve compliance at the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis with salt and boron water quality objectives for the LSJR. The Regional Water Board establishes a method for determining the maximum allowable salt loading to the LSJR. Load allocations are established for nonpoint sources and waste load allocations are established for point sources.

Load allocations to specific dischargers or groups of dischargers are proportionate to the area of nonpoint source land use contributing to the discharge. Control actions that result in salt load reductions will be effective in the control of boron.

The salt and boron control program establishes timelines for: 1) developing and adopting salt and boron water quality objectives for the San Joaquin River upstream of the Airport Way Bridges near Vernalis; 2) a control program to achieve these objectives; and 3) developing and adopting a groundwater control program.

Per the amendment to the Basin Plan for control of salt and boron discharges into the lower San Joaquin River (LSJR) basin, approved by the Regional Water Board in Resolution No. 2004-0108 and incorporated herein, the Regional Water Board will take the following actions, as necessary and appropriate, to implement this control program:

1. The Regional Water Board shall use waivers of waste discharge requirements or waste discharge requirements to apportion load allocations to each of the following seven geographic subareas that comprise the LSJR:
 - a. San Joaquin River Upstream of Salt Slough
 - b. Grassland
 - c. Northwest Side
 - d. East Valley Floor
 - e. Merced River
 - f. Tuolumne River
 - g. Stanislaus River

These subareas are described in Chapter 1 and in more detail in Appendix 41.

2. Dischargers of irrigation return flows from irrigated lands are in compliance with this control program if they meet any of the following conditions:
 - a. Cease discharge to surface water
 - b. Discharge does not exceed 315 μ S/cm electrical conductivity (based on a 30-day running average)
 - c. Operate under waste discharge requirements that include effluent limits for salt
 - d. Operate under a waiver of waste discharge requirements for salt and boron discharges to the LSJR
3. The Regional Water Board will adopt a waiver of waste discharge requirements for salinity management, or incorporate into an existing agricultural waiver, the conditions required to participate in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program. Load allocations for nonpoint source dischargers participating in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program are described in Table IV-4.4. Additional waiver conditions will include use of Regional Water Board approved methods to measure and report flow and electrical conductivity. Participation in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program and attainment of salinity and boron water quality objectives will constitute compliance with this control program.
4. The Regional Water Board will adopt waste discharge requirements with fixed monthly base load allocations specified as effluent limits for nonpoint source discharges that do not meet conditions specified in a waiver of waste discharge requirements for salinity management. Entities operating under WDRs or that will be

required to operate under WDRs in order to comply with other programs, may participate in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program in lieu of additional WDRs for salinity if they meet the conditions specified in the waiver of WDRs for salinity management, as described in item 3.

5. Fixed monthly base load allocations and the method used to calculate real-time load allocations are specified in Table IV-4.4.
6. Waste Load Allocations are established for point sources of salt in the basin. NPDES permitted discharges will not exceed the salinity water quality objectives established for the LSJR at the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis. The Regional Water Board will revise NPDES permits to incorporate TMDL allocations when the permits are renewed or reopened at the discretion of the Regional Water Board.
7. Supply water credits are established for irrigators that receive supply water from the Delta Mendota Canal (DMC) or the LSJR between the confluence of the Merced River and the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis as described in Table IV-4.4.
8. Supply water Load Allocations are established for salts in irrigation water imported to the LSJR Watershed from the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Delta as described in Table IV-4.4.

The Regional Water Board will attempt to enter into a Management Agency Agreement (MAA) with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to address salt imports from the DMC to the LSJR watershed. The MAA shall include provisions requiring the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to:

- a. Meet DMC load allocations; or
- b. Provide mitigation and/or dilution flows to create additional assimilative capacity for salt in the LSJR equivalent to DMC salt loads in excess of their allocation

The Regional Water Board shall request a report of waste discharge from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to address DMC discharges if a MAA is not established by 28 July 2008.

9. The Regional Water Board will review and update the load allocations and waste load allocations by 28 July 2012 and every 6 years thereafter. Any changes to waste load allocations and/or load allocations can be made through subsequent amendment to this control program.

Changes to load allocations will be implemented through revisions of the applicable waste discharge requirements or waivers of waste discharge requirements. Changes to waste load allocations will be implemented through revisions of the applicable NPDES permits.

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10. The Regional Water Board encourages real-time water quality management and pollutant trading of waste load allocations, load allocations, and supply water allocations as a means for attaining salt and boron water quality objectives while maximizing the export of salts out of the LSJR watershed. This control program shall in no way preclude basin-wide stakeholder efforts to attain salinity water quality objectives in the LSJR so long as such efforts are consistent with the control program.
11. The established waste load allocations, load allocations, and supply water allocations represent a maximum allowable level. The Regional Water Board may take other actions or require additional reductions in salt and boron loading to protect beneficial uses
12. Salt loads in water discharged into the LSJR or its tributaries for the express purpose of providing dilution flow are not subject to load limits described in this control program if the discharge:
 - a. complies with salinity water quality objectives for the LSJR at the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis;
 - b. is not a discharge from irrigated lands; and
 - c. is not provided as a water supply to be consumptively used upstream of the San Joaquin River at the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis.
13. Entities providing dilution flows, as described in item 12, will obtain an allocation equal to the salt load assimilative capacity provided by this flow. This dilution flow allocation can be used to: 1) offset salt loads discharged by this entity in excess of any allocation or; 2) trade, as described in item 10. The additional dilution flow allocation provided by dilution flows will be calculated as described in Table IV-4.4.
14. It is anticipated that salinity and boron water quality objectives for the San Joaquin River from Mendota Dam to the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis will be developed and considered for adoption in the second phase of this TMDL, according to time schedule in Table IV-4.1.

Table IV-4.1: Schedule for developing water quality objectives for salt and boron in the LSJR from Mendota Dam to the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis

Milestone	Date
Staff report on criteria needed to protect beneficial uses	October 2004
Staff report and Regional Water Board workshop on water quality objectives that can reasonably be achieved	June 2005
Draft second phase TMDL with water quality objectives and program of implementation for LSJR from Mendota Dam to Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis	September 2005
Board Hearing for consideration of adoption	June 2006

15. Salinity and boron water quality objectives for the San Joaquin River from Mendota Dam to the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis will be implemented using the implementation framework described in this 'Control Program for Salt and Boron Discharges into the Lower San Joaquin River' or other implementation mechanisms, as appropriate.
16. A groundwater control program for sources of salt discharges into the LSJR will be developed by June 2020 if water quality objectives in the LSJR are not being attained.

Implementation Priority

17. The Regional Water Board will focus control actions on the most significant sources of salt and boron discharges to the LSJR. Priority for implementation of load allocations to control salt and boron discharges will be given to subareas with the greatest unit area salt loading (tons per acre per year) to the LSJR (Table IV-4.2).
- The priorities established in Table IV-4.2 will be reviewed by 28 July 2012 and every 6 years thereafter.

Table IV-4.2: Priorities for implementing load allocations¹

Subarea	Priority
San Joaquin River Upstream of Salt Slough	Low
Grassland	High
Northwest Side	High
East Valley Floor	Low
Merced River	Low
Tuolumne River	Medium
Stanislaus River	Low
Delta Mendota Canal ²	High
¹ Priorities based on the unit area salt loading from each subarea and mass load from the DMC	
² Delta Mendota Canal is not a subarea	

Time Schedules for Implementation

18. The Regional Water Board will incorporate base load allocations into waste discharge requirements and real-time load allocations into conditions of waiver of waste discharge requirements by 28 July 2008. Dischargers regulated under a waiver of waste discharge requirements for dischargers participating in a real-time management program for the control of salt and boron in the LSJR shall comply with the waiver conditions within 1 year of the date of adoption of the waiver.
19. Existing NPDES point source dischargers are low priority and subject to the compliance schedules for low priority discharges in Table IV-4.3. New point source discharges that begin discharging after the date of the adoption of this control program must meet waste load allocations upon the commencement of the discharge.

Table IV-4.3: Schedule for Compliance with the load allocations for salt and boron discharges into the LSJR

Priority	Year to implement ¹	
	Wet through Dry Year Types	Critical Year Types
High	8	12
Medium	12	16
Low	16	20
¹ number of years from the effective date [28 July 2006] of this control program		

Table IV-4.4 Summary of Allocations and Credits

BASE SALT LOAD ALLOCATIONS													
Base Load Allocations (thousand tons of salt)													
Year-type ¹	Month / Period												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 1 to Apr. 14	Pulse Period ²	May 16 to May 31	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Wet	41	84	116	23	72	31	0	0	5	45	98	44	36
Abv. Norm	44	84	64	26	71	14	0	0	0	44	58	35	32
Blw. Norm	22	23	31	11	45	8	0	0	0	38	41	34	30
Dry	28	39	25	5	25	1	0	0	0	25	31	27	28
Critical	18	15	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	30	26	23

REAL-TIME SALT LOAD ALLOCATIONS													
<p>Nonpoint source dischargers operating under waiver of waste discharge requirements must participate in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program and meet real-time load allocations. Loading capacity and real-time load allocations are calculated for a monthly time step. The following method is used to calculate real-time load allocations. Flows are expressed in thousand acre-feet per month and loads are expressed in thousand tons per month.</p>													
<p>Loading Capacity (LC) in thousand tons per month is calculated by multiplying flow in thousand acre-ft per month by the salinity water quality objective in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, a unit conversion factor of 0.8293, and a coefficient of 0.85 to provide a 15 percent margin of safety to account for any uncertainty.</p> $\text{LC} = \text{Q} * \text{WQO} * 0.8293 * 0.85$ <p>where:</p> <p>LC = total loading capacity in thousand tons per month</p> <p>Q = flow in the San Joaquin River at the Airport way Bridge near Vernalis in thousand acre-feet per month</p> <p>WQO = salinity water quality objective for the LSJR at Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$</p>													
<p>The sum of the real-time Load Allocations (LA) for nonpoint source dischargers are equal to a portion of the LSJR's total Loading Capacity (LC) as described by the following equation:</p> $\text{LA} = \text{LC} - \text{L}_{\text{BG}} - \text{L}_{\text{CUA}} - \text{L}_{\text{GW}} - \Sigma\text{WLA}$ <p>Where:</p> <p>LA = sum of the real-time Load Allocations for nonpoint source dischargers</p> <p>L_{BG} = loading from background sources</p> <p>L_{CUA} = consumptive use allowance</p> <p>L_{GW} = loading from groundwater</p> <p>ΣWLA = sum of the waste load allocations for all point sources</p>													
<p>Background loading in thousand tons is calculated using the following equation:</p> $\text{L}_{\text{BG}} = \text{Q} * 85 \mu\text{S}/\text{cm} * 0.8293$													

Table IV-4.4 Summary of Allocations and Credits (continued)

Consumptive use allowance loading is calculated with the following equation:

$$L_{CUA} = Q * 230 \mu\text{S/cm} * 0.8293$$

Monthly groundwater Loading (L_{GW}) (in thousand tons)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
15	15	30	32	36	53	46	27	16	13	14	15

Waste load allocations for individual point sources are calculated using the following equation:

$$WLA = Q_{PS} * WQO * 0.8293$$

where:

WLA = waste load allocation in thousand tons per month

Q_{PS} = effluent flow to surface waters from the NPDES permitted point source discharger (in thousand acre-feet per month)

WQO = salinity water quality objective for the LSJR at Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis in $\mu\text{S/cm}$

APPORTIONING OF SALT LOAD ALLOCATION

An individual discharger or group of dischargers can calculate their load allocation by multiplying the nonpoint source acreage drained by the load allocation per acre.

$$\text{LA per acre} = \frac{\text{LA}}{\text{Total nonpoint source acreage}}$$

As of 1 August 2003, the total nonpoint source acreage of the LSJR Basin is 1.21-million acres.

Nonpoint source land uses include all irrigated agricultural lands (including managed wetlands).

Agricultural land includes all areas designated as agricultural or semi-agricultural land uses in the most recent land use surveys published by the California Department of Water Resources. California Department of Water Resources land use surveys are prepared and published on a county-by-county basis. Multiple counties or portions of counties may overlay a given subarea. The land use surveys must be used in combination with a Geographic Information System to quantify the agricultural land use in each subarea. Nonpoint source land areas will be updated every 6 years though an amendment to the Basin Plan if updated California Department of Water Resources land use surveys have been published. The following land use surveys (or portions thereof) are used to quantify agricultural land use in the LSJR watershed.

County	Year of most recent land use survey ¹
Merced	1995
Madera	1995
San Joaquin	1996
Fresno	1994
Stanislaus	1996
¹ -as of 1 August 2003	

Acreage of managed wetlands is based on the boundaries of the federal, private and state owned wetlands that comprise the Grassland Ecological Area in Merced County. Agricultural lands (as designated in DWR land uses surveys) within the Grassland Ecological Area are counted as a agricultural land use and not as managed wetlands. All other lands within the Grassland Ecological Area are considered to be managed wetlands.

CONSUMPTIVE USE ALLOWANCE

In addition to the base load allocations or real-time load allocations shown above, a consumptive use allowance (L_{CUA}) is provided to each discharger:

$$L_{CUA} \text{ in tons per month} = \text{discharge volume in acre-feet per month} * 230 \mu\text{S/cm} * 0.8293$$

Table IV-4.4 Summary of Allocations and Credits (continued)

SUPPLY WATER CREDITS													
A supply water credit is provided to irrigators in the Grassland and Northwest Side Subareas that receive water from the DMC. This DMC supply water credit is equal to 50 percent of the added salt load, in excess of background, delivered to Grassland and Northwest Side subareas. The following fixed DMC supply water credits apply to dischargers operating under base load allocations:													
DMC supply water credits (thousand tons)													
Year-type ¹	Month / Period												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 1 to Apr. 14	Pulse Period ²	May 16 to May 31	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
NORTHWEST SIDE SUBAREA													
Wet	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.7	1.4	0.7	2.0	2.6	2.6	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.0
Abv. Norm	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.9	1.0	2.3	2.3	2.6	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.0
Blw. Norm	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.6	1.5	3.4	4.2	3.3	2.5	1.9	0.8	0.0
Dry	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Critical	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GRASSLAND SUBAREA													
Wet	2.1	5.9	13.9	7.8	17.3	8.8	22.6	20.8	23.2	17.2	16.0	10.4	3.7
Abv. Norm	1.2	4.8	9.4	10.4	24.7	13.6	27.6	20.3	24.5	23.9	16.6	7.5	2.6
Blw. Norm	1.4	5.7	13.8	12.5	29.5	15.9	32.6	29.2	29.8	32.9	25.3	12.8	4.5
Dry	2.2	6.7	15.9	11.1	23.4	11.2	22.9	23.1	24.0	28.0	23.7	13.0	5.3
Critical	3.3	8.9	17.2	10.2	24.1	13.3	33.3	32.5	31.8	27.5	28.7	13.6	5.9
The following method is used to calculate real-time DMC supply water credits in thousand tons per month and applies to dischargers operating under real-time load allocations.													
Real-time CVP Supply Water Credit = $Q_{CVP} * (C_{CVP} - C_{BG}) * 0.8293 * 0.5$													
Where:													
Q_{CVP} = volume of water delivered from CVP in thousand acre-feet per month ³													
C_{CVP} = electrical conductivity of water delivered from CVP in $\mu S/cm^3$													
C_{BG} = background electrical conductivity of 85 $\mu S/cm$													
For irrigators in the Northwest Side Subarea an additional supply water credit is provided to account for salts contained in supply water diverted directly from the LSJR (LSJR diversion water credit). The LSJR diversion credit is equal to 50 percent of the added salt load (in excess of background) in supply water diverted from the San Joaquin River between the confluence of the Merced River and the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis. The following fixed LSJR supply water credits apply to dischargers operating under base load allocations:													
LSJR supply water credits (thousand tons)													
Year-type ¹	Month / Period												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 1 to Apr. 14	Pulse Period ²	May 16 to May 31	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Wet	0.0	0.6	9.2	6.2	9.4	11.0	17.2	23.5	20.5	9.5	1.3	0	0
Abv. Norm	0.0	0.8	5.0	7.4	12.3	11.2	21.8	24.9	20.3	10.7	1.5	0	0
Blw. Norm	0.0	0.6	5.5	7.0	14.4	13.4	27.3	33.1	24.9	13.9	2.4	0	0
Dry	0.0	0.7	5.3	6.4	11.1	10.7	27.5	34.0	20.3	11.4	2.4	0	0
Critical	0.0	0.8	4.5	5.1	14.8	10.6	25.2	28.5	22.3	8.7	2.5	0	0

Table IV-4.4 Summary of Allocations and Credits (continued)

The following method is used to calculate Real-time LSJR supply water credits in thousand tons per month and applies to dischargers operating under real-time load allocations.

$$\text{Real-time LSJR Supply Water Credit} = Q_{\text{LSJR DIV}} * (C_{\text{LSJR DIV}} - C_{\text{BG}}) * 0.8293 * 0.5$$

Where:

$Q_{\text{LSJR DIV}}$ = volume of water diverted from LSJR between the Merced River Confluence and the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis in thousand acre-feet per month⁴

$C_{\text{LSJR DIV}}$ = electrical conductivity of water diverted from the LSJR in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}^4$

C_{BG} = background electrical conductivity of 85 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$

SUPPLY WATER ALLOCATIONS

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation DMC load allocation (LA_{DMC}) is equal to the volume of water delivered from the DMC (Q_{DMC}) to the Grassland and Northwest side Subareas at a background Sierra Nevada quality of 85 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$.

$$LA_{\text{DMC}} = Q_{\text{DMC}} * 85 \mu\text{S}/\text{cm} * 0.8293$$

DILUTION FLOW ALLOCATIONS

Entities providing dilution flows obtain an allocation equal to the salt load assimilative capacity provided by this flow, calculated as follows:

$$A_{\text{dil}} = Q_{\text{dil}} * (C_{\text{dil}} - \text{WQO}) * 0.8293$$

Where:

A_{dil} = dilution flow allocation in thousand tons of salt per month

Q_{dil} = dilution flow volume in thousand acre-feet per month

C_{dil} = dilution flow electrical conductivity in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$

WQO = salinity water quality objective for the LSJR at Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$

¹ The water year classification will be established using the best available estimate of the 60-20-20 San Joaquin Valley water year hydrologic classification (as defined in Footnote 17 for Table 3 in the State Water Resources Control Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary*, May 1995) at the 75% exceedance level using data from the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 120 series. The previous water year's classification will apply until an estimate is made of the current water year.

² Pulse period runs from 4/15-5/15. Period and distribution of base load allocation and supply water credits between April 1 and May 31 may change based on scheduling of pulse flow as specified in State Water Board Water Rights Decision 1641. Total base load allocation for April 1 through May 31 does not change but will be redistributed based on any changes in the timing of the pulse period

³ Methods used to measure and report the volume and electrical conductivity of water delivered from the CVP to irrigated lands must be approved by the Regional Water Board as part of the waiver conditions required to participate in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program

⁴ Methods used to measure and report the volume and electrical conductivity of water diverted from the SJR between the confluence of the Merced and the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis must be approved by the Regional Water Board as part of the waiver conditions required to participate in a Regional Water Board approved real-time management program

Assessment of Biotoxicity of Major Point and Nonpoint Source Discharges in the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins

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In addition to numerical water quality objectives for toxicity, the Basin Plan contains a narrative water quality objective that requires all surface waters to "...be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to or that produce detrimental physiological responses to human, plant, animal, and aquatic life." To check for compliance with this objective, the Regional Water Board initiated a biototoxicity monitoring program to assess toxic impacts from point and nonpoint sources in FY 86-87.

Toxicity testing monitoring requirements have been placed in NPDES permits, as appropriate. Since 1986-87, ambient toxicity testing (coupled with water quality chemistry to identify toxic constituents) has been concentrated in the Delta and major tributaries. The Regional Water Board will continue to impose toxicity testing monitoring requirements in NPDES permits. The focus of ambient toxicity testing will continue to be the Delta and major tributaries.

Heavy Metals From Point and Nonpoint Sources

Heavy metals such as copper, zinc, mercury, lead, and cadmium impair beneficial uses of surface streams. These metals result from various point and nonpoint sources throughout the region, including mines, urban runoff, agriculture, and wastewater treatment plants. Discharges from abandoned or inactive mines, particularly in the Sacramento River watershed, severely impair local receiving waters. Available information suggests that such mines are by far the largest contributors of copper, zinc, and cadmium to surface waters in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins.

Because the Delta and San Francisco Bay receive all upstream inputs, the effects of heavy metals may be focused on these water bodies. Although the relationship between cause and effect remains unclear, heavy metals have been implicated as a cause of problems in Delta biota (e.g., there is a health advisory limiting the consumption of striped bass because of elevated levels of mercury) and copper objectives have been exceeded in the Bay. Problems in the Bay and Delta are related to the

Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC) (Regional Water Board Resolution No. R5-2005-0005)

The purpose of this control program is to implement a dissolved oxygen TMDL to achieve compliance with the Basin Plan dissolved oxygen water quality objectives in the DWSC. The numeric targets for this TMDL are the existing dissolved oxygen water quality objectives.

The dissolved oxygen impairment in the DWSC is caused by the following three main contributing factors:

- Loads of oxygen demanding substances from upstream sources that react by numerous chemical, biological, and physical mechanisms to remove dissolved oxygen from the water column in the DWSC.
- Geometry of the DWSC that impacts various mechanisms that add or remove dissolved oxygen from the water column, such that net oxygen demand exerted in the DWSC is increased.
- Reduced flow through the DWSC impacts various mechanisms that add or remove dissolved oxygen from the water column, such that net oxygen demand exerted in the DWSC is increased.

For the purpose of this control program, net oxygen demand is defined as the combined impact of all chemical, biological, and physical mechanisms that add or remove dissolved oxygen from the water column. When the amount of oxygen removed from the water column is greater than the amount added there is a decrease in the dissolved oxygen concentration. When dissolved oxygen concentrations in the DWSC are below Basin Plan objectives, the assimilative capacity of the water column has been exceeded and the associated excess net oxygen demand (ENOD) is given by the equation:

$$\text{ENOD} = \{ \text{DO}_{\text{obj}} - \text{DO}_{\text{meas}} \} \times \{ \text{Q}_{\text{DWSC}} + 40 \} \times 5.4$$

In the above equation DO_{obj} is the applicable Basin Plan dissolved oxygen objective in milligrams per liter, DO_{meas} is the measured dissolved oxygen

concentration in the DWSC in milligrams per liter, Q_{DWSC} is the net daily flow rate through the DWSC in cubic feet per second (adjusted by 40 cfs to account for flow measurement error), and 5.4 is a unit conversion factor that provides ENOD in units of pounds of net oxygen demand per day in the DWSC.

To account for technical uncertainty a margin of safety (MOS) equal to 20% of ENOD is added to the overall required reduction of ENOD:

$$\text{MOS} = -0.2 \times \text{ENOD}$$

ENOD plus the MOS must be addressed by those collectively responsible for each of the three contributing factors:

$$\text{ENOD} - \text{MOS} = 1.2 \times \text{ENOD} = [\sum \text{WLA} + \sum \text{LA}] + \text{R}_{\text{DWSC}} + \text{R}_{\text{Flow}}$$

where $[\sum \text{WLA} + \sum \text{LA}]$ is the amount of ENOD and MOS for which sources of oxygen demanding substances are responsible, R_{DWSC} is the amount of ENOD and MOS for which DWSC geometry is responsible, and R_{Flow} is the amount of ENOD and MOS for which reduced DWSC flow is responsible.

This TMDL does not specify the relative responsibility among the three contributing factors. Each of the three contributing factors are considered to be 100% responsible for addressing ENOD and MOS. Those parties collectively responsible for each contributing factor must coordinate with those collectively responsible for the other factors to implement control measures addressing ENOD and MOS.

Those parties responsible for sources of oxygen demanding substances $[\sum \text{WLA} + \sum \text{LA}]$ are allocated relative responsibility for excess net oxygen demand as follows:

- a) 30% as a waste load allocation for the City of Stockton Regional Wastewater Control Facility.
- b) 60% as a load allocation to non-point sources of algae and/or precursors in the watershed.
- c) 10% as a reserve for unknown sources and impacts, and known or new sources that have no reasonable potential to impact.

In measuring compliance with waste load and load allocations, credit will be given for control measures implemented after 12 July 2004.

For the purpose of this control program, non-point source discharges are discharges from irrigated lands. Irrigated lands are lands where water is applied for producing crops and, for the purpose of this control program, includes, but is not limited to, land planted to row, field, and tree crops, as well as commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, managed wetlands and rice production.

For the purpose of this control program, oxygen demanding substances and their precursors are any substance or substances that consume, have the potential to consume, or contribute to the growth or formation of substances that consume or have the potential to consume oxygen from the water column.

The source area for loads of oxygen demanding substances and their precursors being addressed by this TMDL includes the SJR watershed that drains downstream of Friant Dam and upstream of the confluence of the San Joaquin River and Disappointment Slough, with the exception of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada foothills above the major reservoirs of New Melones Lake on the Stanislaus, Don Pedro Reservoir on the Tuolumne, Lake McClure on the Merced, New Hogan Reservoir on the Calaveras, Comanche Reservoir on the Mokelumne, and those portions of the SJR watershed that fall within Mariposa, Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Amador Counties.

Measures will also need to be implemented to reduce the impact of both the DWSC geometry and reduced flow through the DWSC.

The Regional Water Board will take the following actions, as necessary and appropriate, to implement this TMDL:

1. The Regional Water Board will use its authority under California Water Code § 13267 (or alternately by Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES permits) to require that entities responsible for point and non-point sources of oxygen demanding substances and their precursors within the TMDL source area perform the following studies by December 2008. These studies must identify and quantify:
 - a) sources of oxygen demanding substances and their precursors in the dissolved oxygen TMDL source area
 - b) growth or degradation mechanisms of these oxygen demanding substances in transit through the source area to the DWSC

- c) the impact of these oxygen demanding substances on dissolved oxygen concentrations in the DWSC under a range of environmental conditions and considering the effects of chemical, biological, and physical mechanisms that add or remove dissolved oxygen from the water column in the DWSC

A study plan describing how ongoing studies and future studies will address these information needs must be submitted to Regional Water Board staff by 23 October 2006. The study plan and studies may be conducted by individual responsible entities or in collaboration with other entities.

2. The Regional Water Board establishes the following waste load allocations:
 - a) The waste load allocations of oxygen demanding substances and their pre-cursors for all NPDES-permitted discharges are initially set at the corresponding effluent limitations applicable on 28 January 2005.
 - b) Waste load allocations and permit conditions for new or expanded point source discharges in the SJR Basin upstream of the DWSC, including NPDES and stormwater, will be based on the discharger demonstrating that the discharge will have no reasonable potential to cause or contribute to a negative impact on the dissolved oxygen impairment in the DWSC.
3. The Regional Water Board will require any project that requires a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Board, and that has the potential to impact dissolved oxygen conditions in the DWSC, to evaluate and fully mitigate those impacts. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a) Future projects that increase the cross-sectional area of the DWSC
 - c) Future water resources facilities projects that reduce flow through the DWSC
4. The Regional Water Board will require, pursuant to California Water Code § 13267, the United States Army Corps of Engineers to submit by 31 December 2006 a technical report identifying and quantifying:
 - a) the chemical, biological, and physical mechanisms by which loads of substances into, or generated within the DWSC, are converted to oxygen demand

- b) the impact that the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel has on re-aeration and other mechanisms that affect dissolved oxygen concentrations in the water column
- 5. The Regional Water Board may consider alternate measures, as opposed to direct control, of certain contributing factors if these measures adequately address the impact on the dissolved oxygen impairment and do not degrade water quality in any other way.
- 6. The Regional Water Board will review allocations and implementation provisions based on the results of the oxygen demand and precursor studies and the prevailing dissolved oxygen conditions in the DWSC by December 2009.
- 7. The Regional Water Board will require compliance with waste load allocations and load allocations for oxygen demanding substances and their precursors, and development of alternate measures to address non-load related factors by 31 December 2011.
- 8. The established allocations and implementation provisions represent a maximum allowable level for the purpose of addressing the dissolved oxygen impairment in the DWSC. Where more than one allocation may be applicable, the most stringent allocation applies. The Regional Water Board may take other, more restrictive, actions affecting the contributing factors to this impairment as needed to protect other beneficial uses or to implement other water quality objectives.

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ESTIMATED COSTS OF AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAMS AND POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FINANCING

San Joaquin River Subsurface Agricultural Drainage Control Program

The estimates of capital and operational costs to achieve the selenium objective for the San Joaquin River range from \$3.6 million/year to \$27.4 million/year (1990 dollars). The cost of meeting water quality objectives in Mud Slough (north), Salt Slough, and the wetland supply channels is approximately \$2.7 million /year (1990 dollars).

Potential funding sources include:

1. Private financing by individual sources.
2. Bonded indebtedness or loans from governmental institutions.
3. Surcharge on water deliveries to lands contributing to the drainage problem.
4. Ad Valorem tax on lands contributing to the drainage problem.
5. Taxes and fees levied by a district created for the purpose of drainage management.
6. State or federal grants or low-interest loan programs.
7. Single-purpose appropriations from federal or State legislative bodies (including land retirement programs).

Lower San Joaquin River Salt and Boron Control Program

The estimates of capital and operational costs to implement drainage controls needed to achieve the salt and boron water quality objectives at the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis range from 27 to 38 million dollars per year (2003 dollars).

Potential funding sources include:

1. Those identified in the San Joaquin River Subsurface Agricultural Drainage Program and the Pesticide Control Program.
2. Annual fees for waste discharge requirements.

Pesticide Control Program

Based on an average of \$15 per acre per year for 500,000 acres of land planted to rice and an average of \$5 per acre per year for the remaining 3,500,000 acres of irrigated agriculture in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins, the total annual cost to agriculture is estimated at \$25,000,000. Financial assistance for complying with this program may be obtainable through the U.S.D.A. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and technical assistance is available from the University of California Cooperative Extension Service and the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service.

Sacramento and Feather Rivers Orchard Runoff Control Program

The total estimated costs for management practices to meet the diazinon objectives for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers are from a \$0.3 million/ year cost savings to a \$3.8 million/year cost (2001 dollars). The estimated costs for discharger monitoring, planning, and evaluation are from \$0.5 to \$9.3 million/year (2003 dollars).

Potential funding sources include:

1. Those identified in the San Joaquin River Subsurface Agricultural Drainage Control Program and the Pesticide Control Program.

San Joaquin River Dissolved Oxygen Control Program

The Control Program for Factors Contributing to the Dissolved Oxygen Impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (DWSC) requires agricultural and municipal dischargers to perform various studies. The total estimated cost of the studies to be performed as part of this control program is approximately \$15.6 million. The preferred alternative also includes a prohibition of discharge if water quality objectives are not achieved by 31 December 2011. The estimated cost to cease discharge of water from irrigated lands ranges from \$95 to \$133 million per year. The estimated cost to provide minimum flows that would remove the need

for the prohibition is approximately \$37 million dollars per year to eliminate the impairment through provision of purchased water. The cost of construction of an aeration device of adequate capacity to eliminate the impairment, in conjunction with point source load reductions already required, is estimated to be \$10 million, with yearly operation and maintenance costs of \$200,000 per year.

Potential funding sources:

1. Proposition 13 includes \$40 million in bond funds to address the dissolved oxygen impairment in the DWSC. Approximately \$14.4 million of this \$40 million has been identified to fund the oxygen demanding substance and precursor studies. An additional \$1.2 million is being provided from various watershed stakeholders. Approximately \$24 million of Proposition 13 funds are available to pay for projects such as the design and construction of an aeration device.
2. The State Water Contractors, Port of Stockton, San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority, San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, and the San Joaquin River Group Authority have proposed to develop an operating entity for an aeration device and have indicated their commitment to execute a funding agreement among themselves and other interested parties, (subject to ultimate approval of respective governing boards) that would provide the mechanism to support operation of a permanent aerator at a cost expected to be in the annual range of \$250,000 to \$400,000.

2. The Regional Board will inspect discharge flow monitoring facilities and will continue its cooperative effort with dischargers to ensure the quality of laboratory results.
3. The Regional Board will, on a regular basis, inspect any facilities constructed to store or treat agricultural subsurface drainage.
4. The Regional Board will continue to maintain and update its information on agricultural subsurface drainage facilities in the Grassland watershed. Efforts at collecting basic data on all facilities, including flow estimates and water quality will continue.
5. The Regional Water Board, in cooperation with other agencies, will regularly assess water conservation achievements, cost of such efforts and drainage reduction effectiveness information. In addition, in cooperation with the programs of other agencies and local district managers, the Regional Board will gather information on irrigation practices, i.e., irrigation efficiency, pre-irrigation efficiency, excessive deep percolation and on seepage losses.

Another such study is a surveillance and monitoring program conducted by the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) on Deer Creek in El Dorado and Sacramento Counties. Regional Board staff will work with EID to ensure adequate temperature, flow and biological monitoring is conducted to evaluate compliance with the site-specific temperature objectives for Deer Creek and their effect on beneficial uses.

Aerial Surveillance

Low-altitude flights are conducted primarily to observe variations in field conditions, gather photographic records of discharges, and document variations in water quality.

Self-Monitoring

Self-monitoring reports are normally submitted by the discharger on a monthly or quarterly basis as required by the permit conditions. They are routinely reviewed by Regional Water Board staff.

Compliance Monitoring

Compliance monitoring determines permit compliance, validates self-monitoring reports, and provides support for enforcement actions. Discharger compliance monitoring and enforcement actions are the responsibility of the Regional Water Board staff.

Complaint Investigation

Complaints from the public or governmental agencies regarding the discharge of pollutants or creation of nuisance conditions are investigated and pertinent information collected.

Clear Lake Methylmercury

The Regional Water Board will use the following criteria to determine compliance with the methylmercury fish tissue objectives in Clear Lake. Mercury will be measured in fish of the species and sizes consumed by humans and wildlife. The objectives are based on the average of methylmercury concentrations in muscle tissue of trophic level 3 and 4 fish. Because greater than 85% of total mercury in muscle tissue of fish of these sizes is methylmercury, analysis of muscle tissue for total mercury is acceptable for assessing compliance.

Fish from the following species will be collected and analyzed every ten years. The representative fish species for trophic level 4 shall be largemouth bass (total length 300-400 mm), catfish (total length 300 – 400 mm), brown bullhead (total length 300-400 mm), and crappie (total length 200-300 mm). The representative fish species for trophic level 3 shall be carp, hitch, Sacramento blackfish, black bullhead, and bluegill of all sizes; and brown bullhead and catfish of lengths less than the trophic level 4 lengths.

Fish tissue mercury concentrations are not expected to respond quickly to remediation activities at Sulphur Bank Mercury Mine, Clear Lake sediments, or the tributaries. Adult fish integrate methylmercury over a lifetime and load reduction efforts are not expected to be discernable for more than five years after remediation efforts. Therefore to assess remedial activities, part of the monitoring at Clear Lake will include indicator species, consisting of inland silversides and largemouth bass less than one year old, to be sampled every five years. Juveniles of these species will reflect recent exposure to methylmercury and can be indicators of mercury reduction efforts.

Average concentrations of methylmercury by trophic level should be determined in a combination of the identified species collected throughout Clear Lake. The number of fish collected to determine compliance with this objective will be based on the statistical variance within each species. The sample size will be determined by methods described in USEPA's Guidance for Assessing Chemical Contaminant Data

for Use in Fish or other statistical methods approved by the Executive Officer.

Total mercury in tributary sediment, lake sediment, and water will be monitored to determine whether loads have decreased. The water and sediment monitoring frequency will be every five years.

Orchard Pesticide Runoff and Diazinon Runoff into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers

The Regional Water Board requires a focused monitoring effort of pesticide runoff from orchards in the Sacramento Valley.

The monitoring and reporting program for any waste discharge requirements or waiver of waste discharge requirements that addresses pesticide runoff from orchards in the Sacramento Valley must be designed to collect the information necessary to:

1. determine compliance with established water quality objectives for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers;
2. determine compliance with established waste load allocations and load allocations for diazinon;
3. determine the degree of implementation of management practices to reduce off-site migration of diazinon;
4. determine the effectiveness of management practices and strategies to reduce off-site migration of diazinon;
5. determine whether alternatives to diazinon are causing surface water quality impacts;
6. determine whether the discharge causes or contributes to a toxicity impairment due to additive or synergistic effects of multiple pollutants; and
7. demonstrate that management practices are achieving the lowest pesticide levels technically and economically achievable.

Dischargers are responsible for providing the necessary information. The information may come from the dischargers' monitoring efforts; monitoring programs conducted by State or federal agencies or collaborative watershed efforts; or from special studies that evaluate the effectiveness of management practices.

APPENDIX DIRECTORY (continued)

<u>ITEM*</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
34.	Regional Water Board Guidelines for Erosion
35.	Regional Water Board Guidelines for Small Hydroelectric Facilities
36.	Regional Water Board Guidelines for Disposal from Land Developments
37.	Regional Water Board Guidelines for Mining
38.	Regional Water Board list of Water Quality Limited Segments - - - Removed 6 September 2002
39.	Federal Anti-degradation policy (40 CFR 131.12)
40.	Grassland Watershed Wetland Channels
41.	San Joaquin Area Subarea Descriptions

* Appendix items are paginated by: item number/item page/item total pages